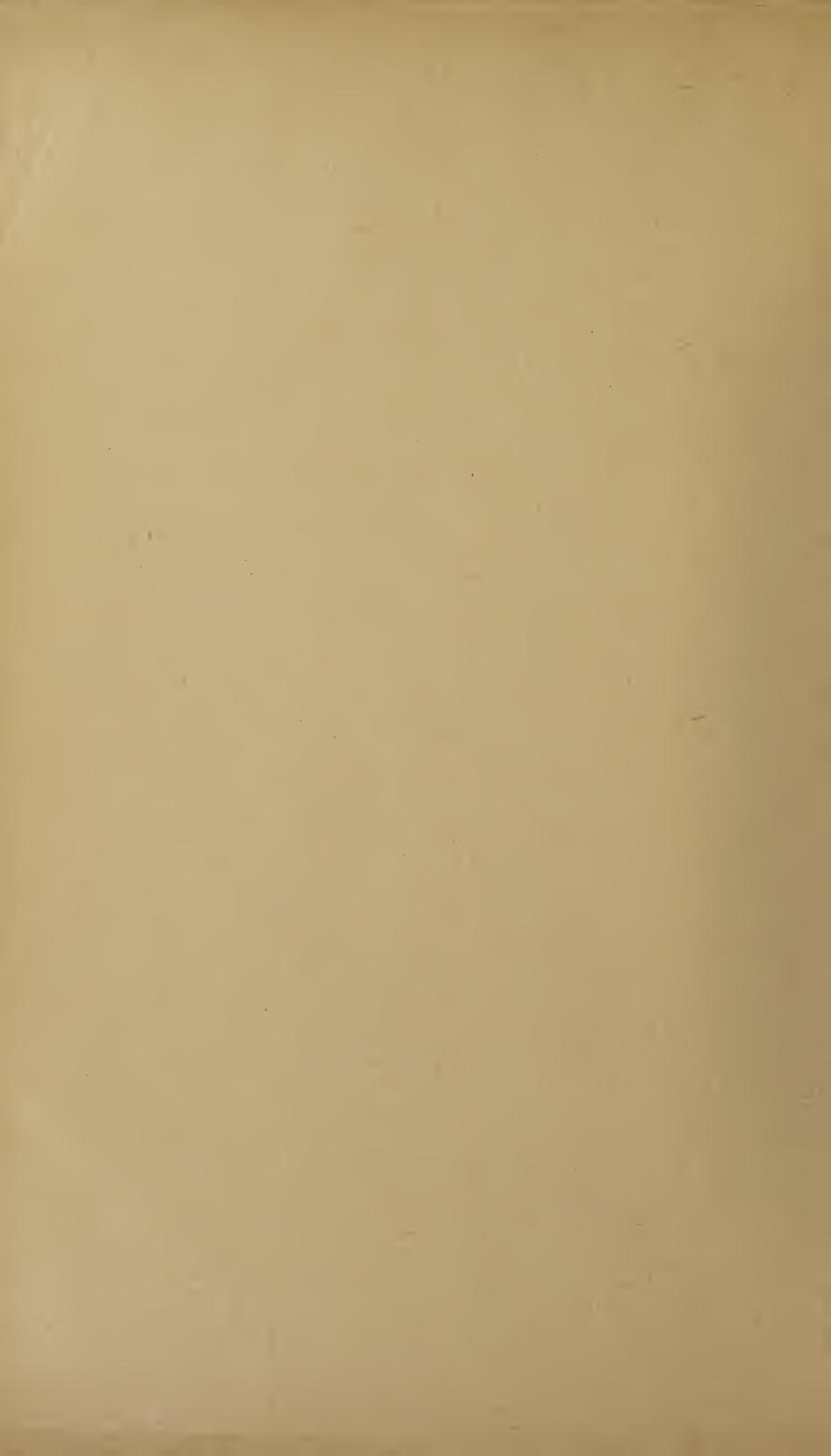
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BOROUGH OF MALMESBURY



BOROUGH OF MALMESBURY.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED

31st. DECEMBER

- 1957 -

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY ETC.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham, and the Rural Districts of Calne & Chippenham and Malmesbury.

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

E.H. Holroyd, Cert. R.S.l.,

Meat and Food Inspector's Cert.

who combined the duties with that of Borough Surveyor.

(c) CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(d) PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES.

The General Purposes Committee of the Council deals with all matters pertaining to Public Health.

The Mayor, Alderman & Councillors, Malmesbury Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The health of the community was satisfactory during the year, apart from an outbreak of measles.

The Birth Rate shows a decrease, whilst the death rate shows a slight increase over the rate for 1956.

Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary Disease collectively accounted for over half the deaths. Coronary disease accounted for six deaths as compared with five deaths during 1956.

Detail concerning the above with appropriate comment and other statistics relating to health, will be found in the substance of this report.

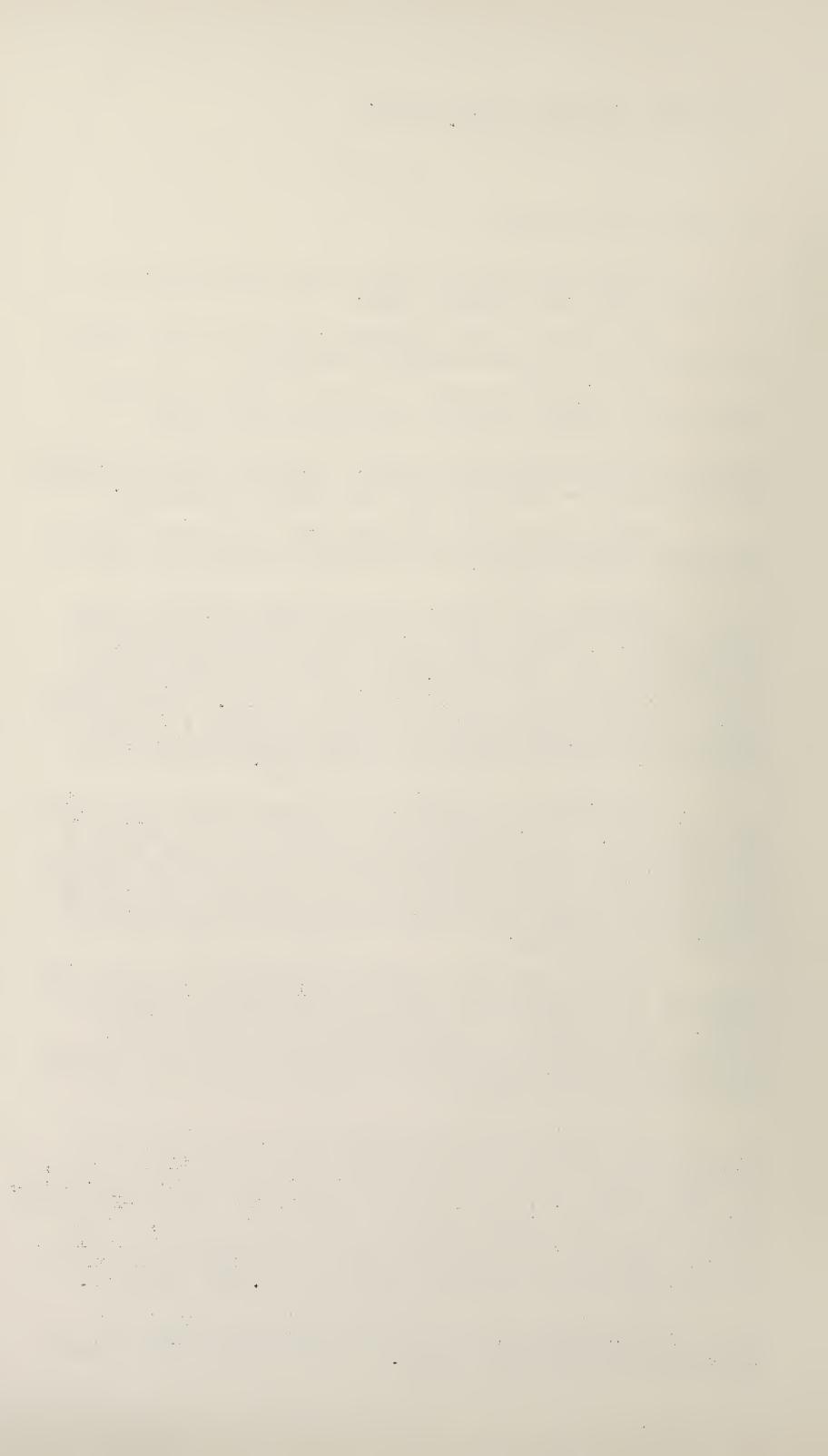
Although the Council is principally concerned with environmental hygiene such as housing, the provision of pure water supplies, sewage disposal and clean food production, nevertheless, the personal health services and other factors influencing health are of interest, and comment thereon should not be excluded from a report on public health. The personal health services administered by the County Council include Maternity and Child Welfare, The School Health Service, The Mental Health Service and Home Help Service.

Improvements in housing and accommodation of all kinds are still necessary but increasing attention is now given to the occupants. Domiciliary care is extended to the aged, the physically and mentally handicapped and to the problem family. The activities of local communities interested in the welfare of the aged and the health visitor, all make contributions to the personal welfare and reduce the demands on hospital and welfare accommodation.

The Clean Air Act of 1956 is designed to increase the powers of Local Authorities over the emission of industrial smoke and to facilitate the establishment of smoke control areas. Much research is now undertaken on the physical, chemical and medical aspects of air pollution and it is likely that clean air legislation will be strengthened as further knowledge becomes available.

The control of tuberculosis has been assisted since the war by improved housing standards, improvements in case finding with isolation and treatment of the infectious person, the examination of all contacts and their subsequent supervision, new drugs and B.C.G. vaccination. The visits of Mass-X Ray Units are of value in the detection of unknown cases, but as might be expected, the yield of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis by this means varies throughout the country from barely one case per thousand examined to a figure of 3.5 per thousand.

Appropriate statistics and details of a visit of the Mobile X-Ray Unit to the Borough during 1957 will be found in the substance of this report.



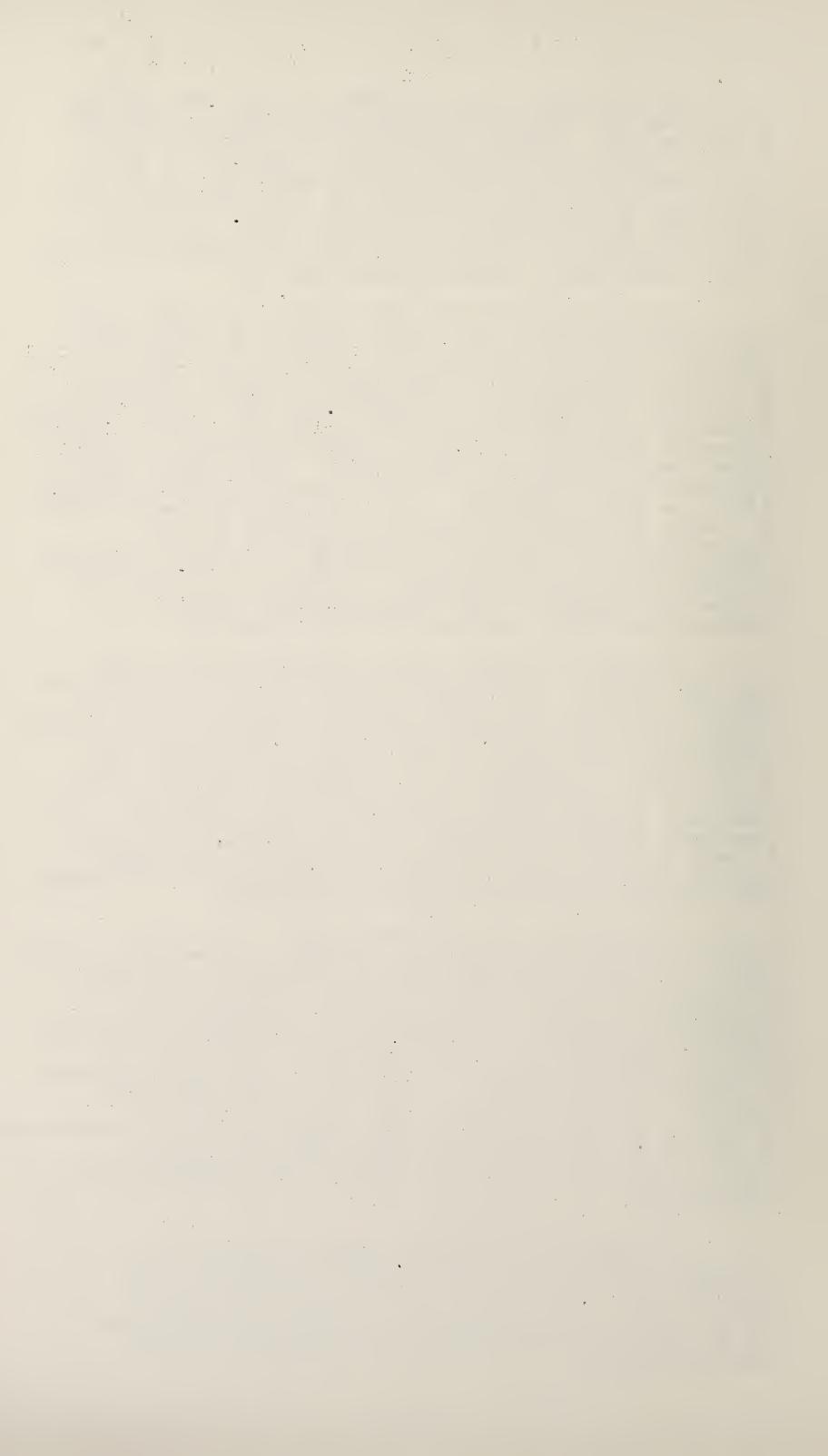
During 1956, in England & Wales, there were 794 more male deaths from Cancer of the Lung than in 1955, an increase of 5.4 per cent. Tobacco smoking and air pollution are the two main factors, particularly cigarette smoking. A survey on the deaths of British doctors whose smoking habits had been previously ascertained, showed that the death rate from Lung Cancer rose in proportion to the amount smoked. The figures also showed that the mortality rate was lower amongst those giving up smoking and diminished progressively with the increase in time during which smoking had been given up.

In the report for the year ended 31st December, 1956, of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, makes some interesting comments on mental health. The number of patients in residence under the Lunancy and Mental Treatment Acts in 1956 was 149,219 and the number of mental defectives in residence was 213,230. It appears that the Regional Hospital Boards allocated 34% of their total capital expenditure on mental and mental deficiency hospitals, although many types of mental illness can be treated as out-patients. During 1956, figures for out-patients attendances at the various hospitals in England & Wales is given as 762,072. It is apparent that mental health is a large and complicated subject, influenced by many circumstances, and of interest to all types of Local Authority. Mental hygiene, or preventive psychiatry, is generally accepted as worthy of further development. A proper appreciation by parents and teachers, of the healthy emotional progress of children from infancy onwards, is a basic necessity.

Nowadays the public shows a lively interest in all aspects of health education and receives advice and instruction from many sources. Few regular weekly publications fail to produce an article on health or physical fitness, and the British Medical Association has produced its own periodical for the instruction of the public. This general concern over health is not likely to diminish and it is important that the public should not be misinformed. The recent B.B.C. television series "Your life in their hands" dramatised the rare operative procedures sometimes undertaken in large hospitals, but failed to seize the opportunity to advise the public on the simple hygienic practices necessary to prevent the spread of dysentery, food poisoning and similar intestinal infections.

The procedure for the notification of infectious diseases requires review and consolidation. Infectious Diseases such as Dysentery, Food Poisoning and Poliomyelitis may only be diagnosed with certainty after laboratory investigation and the isolation of the causitive organism. Notification is occasionally received after admission to hospital and laboratory investigation, with consequent delay in the institution of means to prevent the spread of infection. There is a tendency to consider Scarlet Fever as a disease of little importance nowadays. Positive action is still necessary to prevent the spread of this and allied streptococcal infections, particularly in view of the large amount of milk produced in the area. Certain strains of streptococci isolated during Scarlet Fever outbreaks have been responsible for severe Nephritis as a complication.

The campaign to immunise school children and expectant mothers against Poliomyelitis and those exposed to special risk will no doubt in time be extended to the population as a whole and will be a valuable preventive measure of this serious infection. Clean food production and the practice of good hygiene in the home must not be neglected however.



Sporadic infections by the organism of food poisoning occur from time to time, also small outbreaks of dysentery due to the Sonne Bacillus. Routine measures of control include segregation and treatment of the patient, house and garden quarantine and bacteriological investigation of contacts, with their subsequent exclusion from school or employment if found necessary. No contact is permitted to resume school or employment until bacteriologically proved free from infection. These procedures occasion many visits to the home of patients by Health Inspectors when the opportunity is also taken to give the necessary advice on personal hygiene.

The Public Health Laboratory, Bath has provided invaluable service during the year and has examined and reported on a large amount of material. A confident and firm diagnosis of many infections would be quite impossible without this service. Dr. Paul Mann, the Director of the Bath Laboratory, is always most co-operative and of great assistance in dealing with outbreaks of all forms of infection.

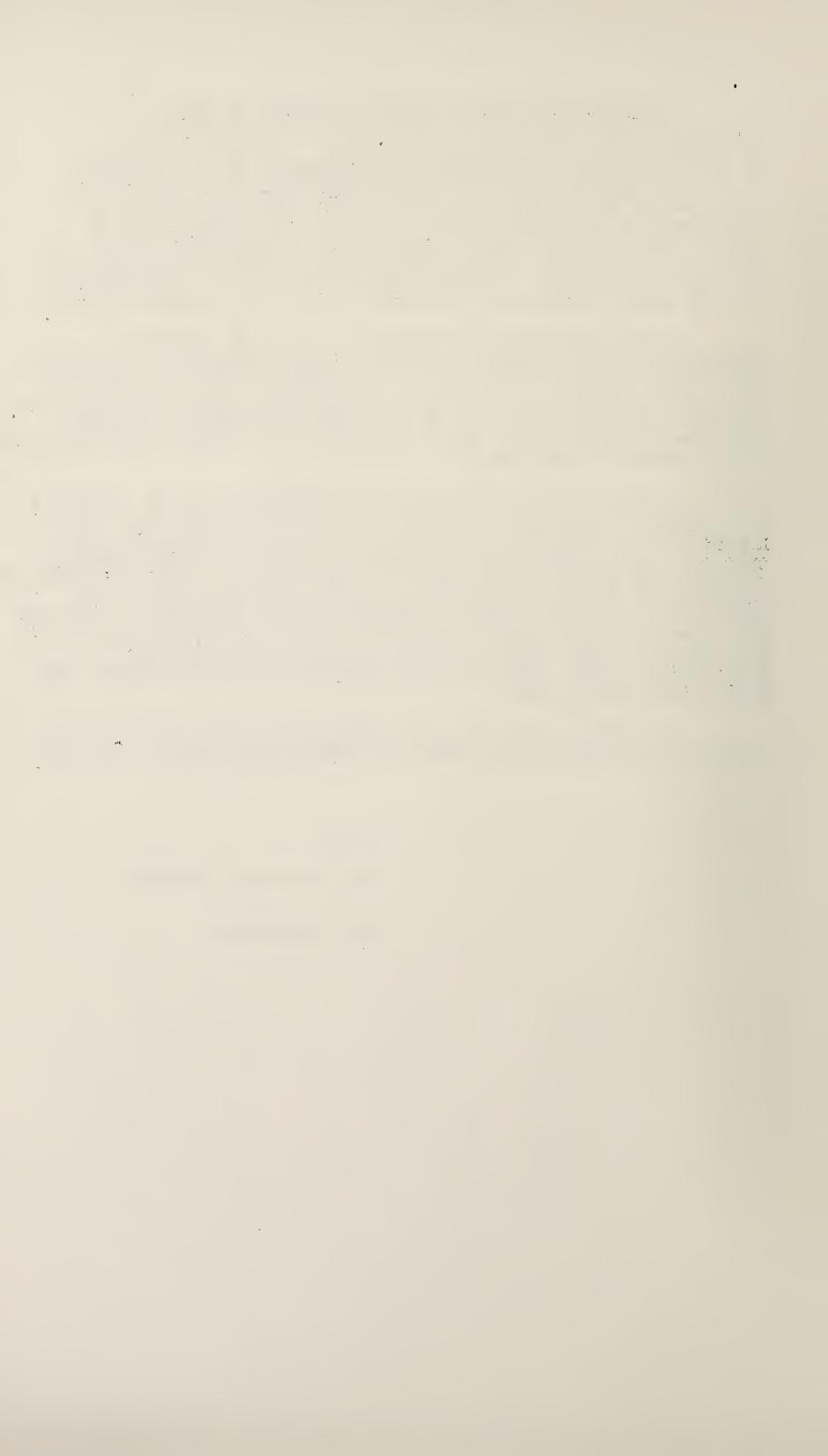
The cost of the National Health Service is of interest; only figures for 1956 however are available at present. The Report of the Ministry of Health for the year ended, 1956 states that the cost of the National Health Service was £535,000,000; Hospital, Specialist and General Medical Services cost £360,000,000 or 67% Local Health Authorities engaged in the prevention of disease and personal health accounted for £46,000,000 or only $8\frac{1}{2}$ % The report shows, amongst others, as sources of finance, Exchequer £423,000,000 (79%) transfer from National Insurance Fund £36,000,000 (6 $\frac{3}{4}$ %), Superannuation Contributions £27,000,000 (5%) Rates £22,000,000 ($\frac{4}{4}$ %).

I wish to thank Mr. E.H. Holroyd and the staff of the Borough Council for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD



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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	227
Population	2710
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1957 according to the Rate Book)	924
Rateable Value	£31,436
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£124

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS

	BIRTHS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
	Legitimate Illegitimate Total	20 20	14 2 16	34 2 36
Birth Rate for	the Borough .	• • • • •	· • • • · •	.13.2 per 1000
Comparative Rat			of	the population.

The Birth Rate for the Borough is lower this year by comparison with the rate for 1956 which was 17.2 per 1000 of the population.

STILL BIRTHS

No still births were recorded during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY

No deaths were recorded during the year in respect of children under one year of age.

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Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1957 were as follows:-

	Mares	remares	TOUAL.
	19	16	35
Death Rate for the Borough Comparative Rate for England &		of	the population.

The Death Rate for this year is slightly higher than the rate for 1956 which was 11.7 per 1000 of the population.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	b-d	1	1
Tuberculosis, other	p=4	~~	
Syphilitic disease	area.	prob	
Diphtheria	⊷	t-ret	•••
Whooping Cough	gard .	p=4	•••
Meningococcal infections	₩	g-r0	
Ac. Poliomyelitis	•••	bed	profit
Measles	p=0	₩	•••
Other infective and parasitic dis.	graph .	p=4	gue
Malignant neoplasm, stomach		profit.	\$111
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	•••	~
Other malignant and lymphatic	_	_	1
neoplasms.	3	1	4
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	₩	1
Diabetes	••••) ,	(ma)	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	<u>4</u> 2) :	4
Coronary disease, angina	2	<u> </u>	
Hypertension with heart disease Other heart disease	2	1	- 3 3
Other disease Other circulatory disease	1	2	ンス
Influenza	,L,	1	7
Pneumonia			
Bronchitis	1	3	11
Other diseases of respiratory sys.	9-40	•	**
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	early .	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	garde .	e-4	•
Nephritis and nephrosis	•••	6 100	
Hyperplasia of prostate		p-di	₩.
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	p=40	₩.	p==
Congenital malformations	aa	(Fixed)	
Other defined and ill-defined dis.	•••	2000	
Motor vehicle accidents	•••	~	p==0
All other accidents	1	⊷	l
Suicide		⊷	₩.
Homicide and operations of war	-	=	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	prest	3	
TOTAL:-	19	16	<i>3</i> 5

It will be seen from the above table that Cancer, Heart Disease and Coronary Disease collectively accounted for more than half the deaths in the Borough during 1957.

During January and February an outbreak of Measles occurred during which 104 notifications were received. Over half of these notifications were in respect of children in the five to nine year age group.

Apart from the above and the notification of three cases of Pneumonia, the Borough enjoyed a complete freedom from notifiable infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) during 1957.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Four cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during 1957. The patients, one male and three females are under surveillance by the County Chest Physician and the environmental conditions of each person has been investigated by the Health Inspector.

The death from tuberculosis shown on page 6 of this report concerns a female who had not been notified as suffering from tuberculosis during life.

It should be noted however that in addition to the number of cases of Tuberculosis notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the Borough or move out, whilst a certain proportion are certified by the Chest Physician as recovered and their names removed from the Register of Tuberculous Persons. At the end of 1957 the following cases of Pulmomary; and Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis remained on the Register.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	16	17	33
Non-Pul.	1	1	2
Total	17	18	35

MASS X-RAY.

A Mobile X-Ray Unit visited the Borough during November and examinations were carried out at the Town Hall and the Bremilham County Secondary Modern School. A total of 820 persons availed themselves of this service, with the following results.

Active Tuberculosis found Nil Inactive Tuberculosis found 2

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The following children received primary immunisation during 1957.

Total immunised child population as at 31.12.57

Under 1 year Ages 1-4 Ages 5-14 Total
10 176 496 682

Vaccinations.

The following children were vaccinated during 1957.

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WATER SUPPLIES.

The Borough obtains water supplies from two sources, one, a borehole 153 feet deep at Park Road, and the other, a shallow well, fed by three springs, at Holloway. All water is now supplied from the borehole in Park Road, and the Holloway source is used only in an emergency. The water is pumped by electrically driven centrifugal pumps to a water tower of 200,000 gallons capacity, whence it reaches the consumers by gravity. A bulk supply is given to the Malmesbury Rural District Council.

The average daily quantity of water pumped for use in the Borough during 1957 was 151,000 gallons per day, giving 54 gallons per day per head of population estimated at 2,750. This figure shows a slight increase over the previous year. In addition an average of 10,000 gallons per day was supplied to the Malmesbury Rural District Council. This is a sharp decrease over the previous year, as the Rural District Council have made good progress with the development of their own sources of supply, and the Borough now only supplies them in the Bristol Road and Foxley areas.

The water is chlorinated at source and frequent bacteriological and chemical examinations are made with satisfactory results.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The whole of the Borough is served by an obsolete system of sewers, which discharge, through small catchpits, into the river. There are no works for the treatment and disposal of the sewage, and pollution of the River Avon occurs.

In August the following report concerning Sewerage and Sewage Disposal, St. Paul Without was made to the Malmesbury Rural District Council, and a copy of this report was considered by the General Purposes Committee of the Malmesbury Borough Council at its meeting on the 2nd September, 1957.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal St. Paul Without

I have discussed this proposal with the Clerk and the Senior Public Health Inspector. I have also inspected the area to be sewered and the River Avon at appropriate points.

The scheme depends on the co-operation of the Borough of Malmesbury whose proposed new disposal works have been designed to take the additional sewage from adjoining parts of the Rural District, i.e. Burton Hill, Milbourne, Filands and Tetbury Hill.

Up to the present, the Minister of Housing and Local Government has not given the Borough of Malmesbury the necessary permission to go to tender so that work can commence.

In the area of the Rural District to be served by the proposed scheme there are:-

Dwelling houses.	٥		0 0	o	٥	0		0	0	142
Public houses .					ø	0	· d	0		2
Malmesbury Hospit	al	L .		•	•	0	•	,	•	1
Burton Hill Schoo	1	for	Cri	.pp	led	3	Chi	110	lre	n l

Disposal is as follows:-

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DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE (CONTINUED)

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal St. Paul Without (contd)

Twenty of the Septic tanks have been installed in the last five years.

Future development without proper sewage disposal will require drainage to an increasing number of small individual treatment plants. These are not satisfactory in a semi urbanised area.

Fifty eight houses are in course of erection in the area to be served by the scheme. A new Grammar School is planned and applications for planning permission to build twenty houses are pending.

The proposed new Grammar School will present a particular problem. If a separate and individual sewage disposal scheme is constructed, the only available stream to receive the final effluent is situated to the North of the site, and the school drainage will need to be planned accordingly. The proposed new sewer will terminate to the south of the site and will be accessible. If the new scheme does not materialise now, it appears that the Grammar School will never be connected to the main sewer even when the scheme is at last constructed.

Future development in the area of the proposed scheme without the proper sewerage and sewage disposal of an urbanised area, will add to the present unsatisfactory drainage arrangements.

Pollution of the River Avon is of long standing and has been the subject of much correspondence since 1946. It was causing some concern even in 1938. Owing to the refusal of the Minister of Housing and Local Government to give permission to the Borough of Malmesbury to go to tender and start the necessary works, pollution of the river has become much worse.

The combined scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal is urgently needed to safeguard public health, and I recommend that the Minister of Housing & Local Government be informed in order that the necessary permission to go to tender and start work may be obtained as soon as possible".

No further progress was made during the year with regard to the new Sewerage Scheme. The need to restrict capital expenditure was still stressed by the Government, and the sharp increase in the Bank Rate with the consequent raising of the rate of interest on loans, would have added considerably to the yearly payments of principal and interest on money borrowed for the scheme.

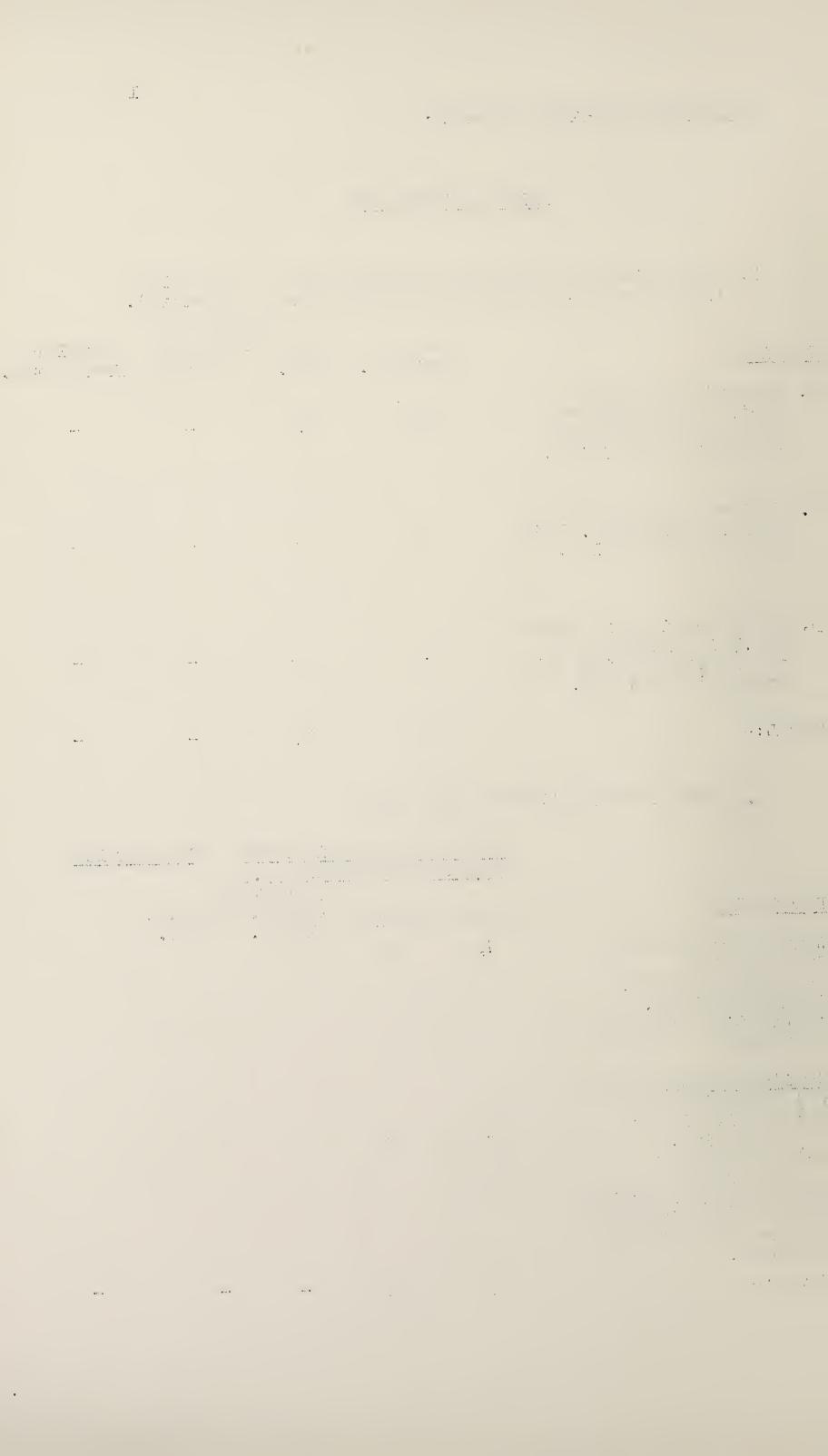
PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register.	Inspect-	mber of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	16	12	⊷	Berti
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the L.A.	13	5		dess
3. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises).		924	5	prod
TOTAL:-	29	17	\$110	**

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

		r of cases ts were fo		Prosecutions
Particulars Want of cleanliness Overvrowding Unreasonable Temp. Inadequate Vent. Ineffective drainage of floors.	Found 4	Remedied 4	Refer TO H.M. Inspr.	BY H.M.
Sanitary Conveniences (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective. (c) Not separate for sexes Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	1	1		
Total:-	5	5	prop	Gree Aust



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 31st. DECEMBER, 1957

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Malmesbury:

Gentlemen:

I have the honour to present to you my eleventh Annual Report covering the work carried out in the Public Health Department during the year 1957.

The tables and statistics are act out in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 42/51, as amended by Circular 19/56.

As much Public Health work has been carried out as my other duties will permit, but I must emphasize that much has, of necessity, been left undone. As is usual in these Reports, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. HOLROYD

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

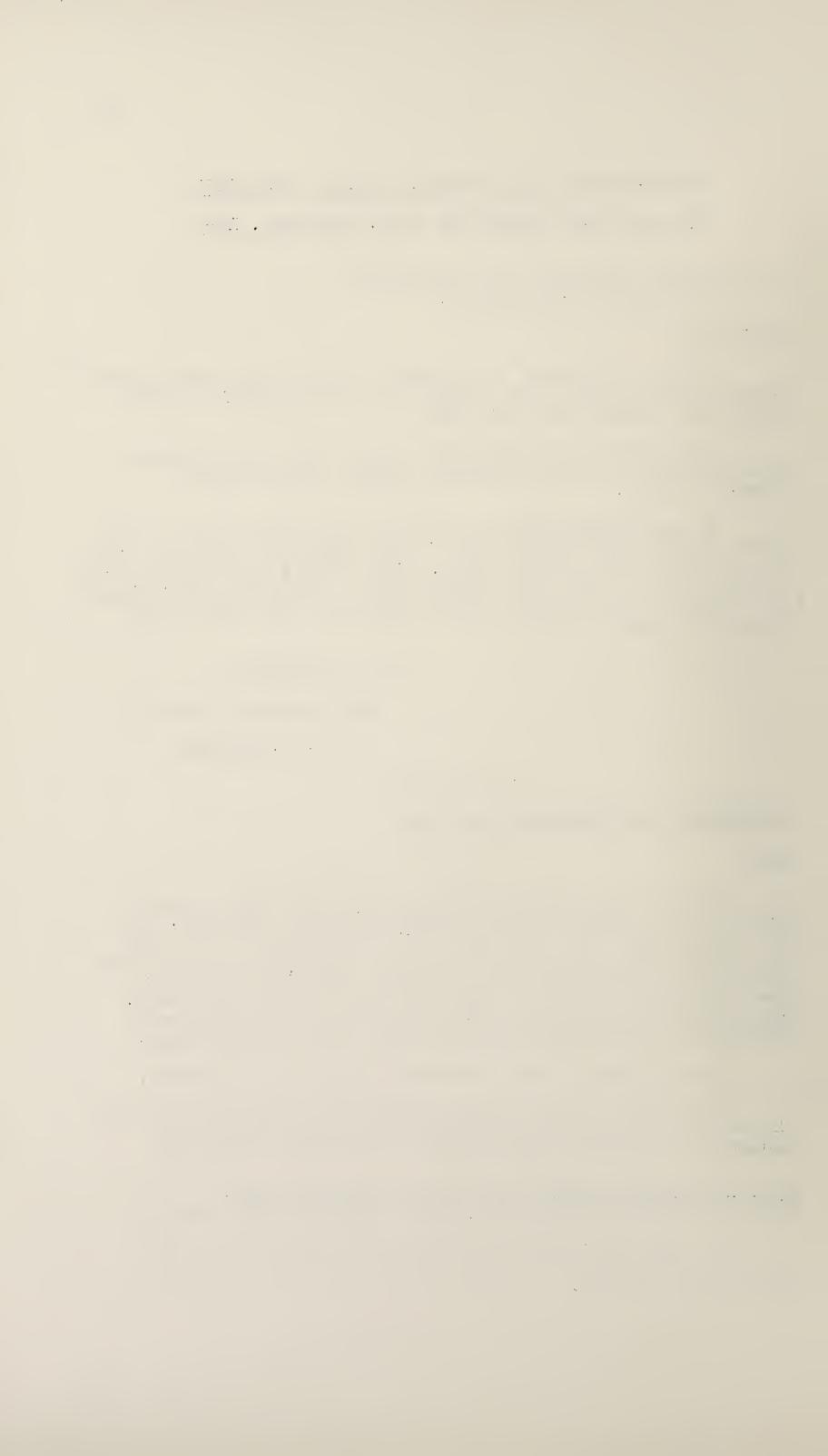
There is one slaughterhouse in the Borough, in which killing takes place six days weekly, Sundays included, and one hundred per cent inspection of all animals killed has been maintained throughout the year. This has been possible through the co-operation of the local Veterinary Officer, who has carried out the inspections when I have been away. Approximately ninety-five per cent of the meat killed and dressed in the slaughterhouse is sent out of the Borough.

The killing of pigs continues at the Bacon Factory.

The table overleaf gives details of animals killed and inspected, together with numbers of animals affected by disease, and includes pigs killed at the Bacon Factory:

Meat Inspection and Exchequer Grants towards cost.
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food Circular FSH/57

An application made to the Minister during the year in respect of the above resulted in a grant of £200 being made to the Borough.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD (Contid.)

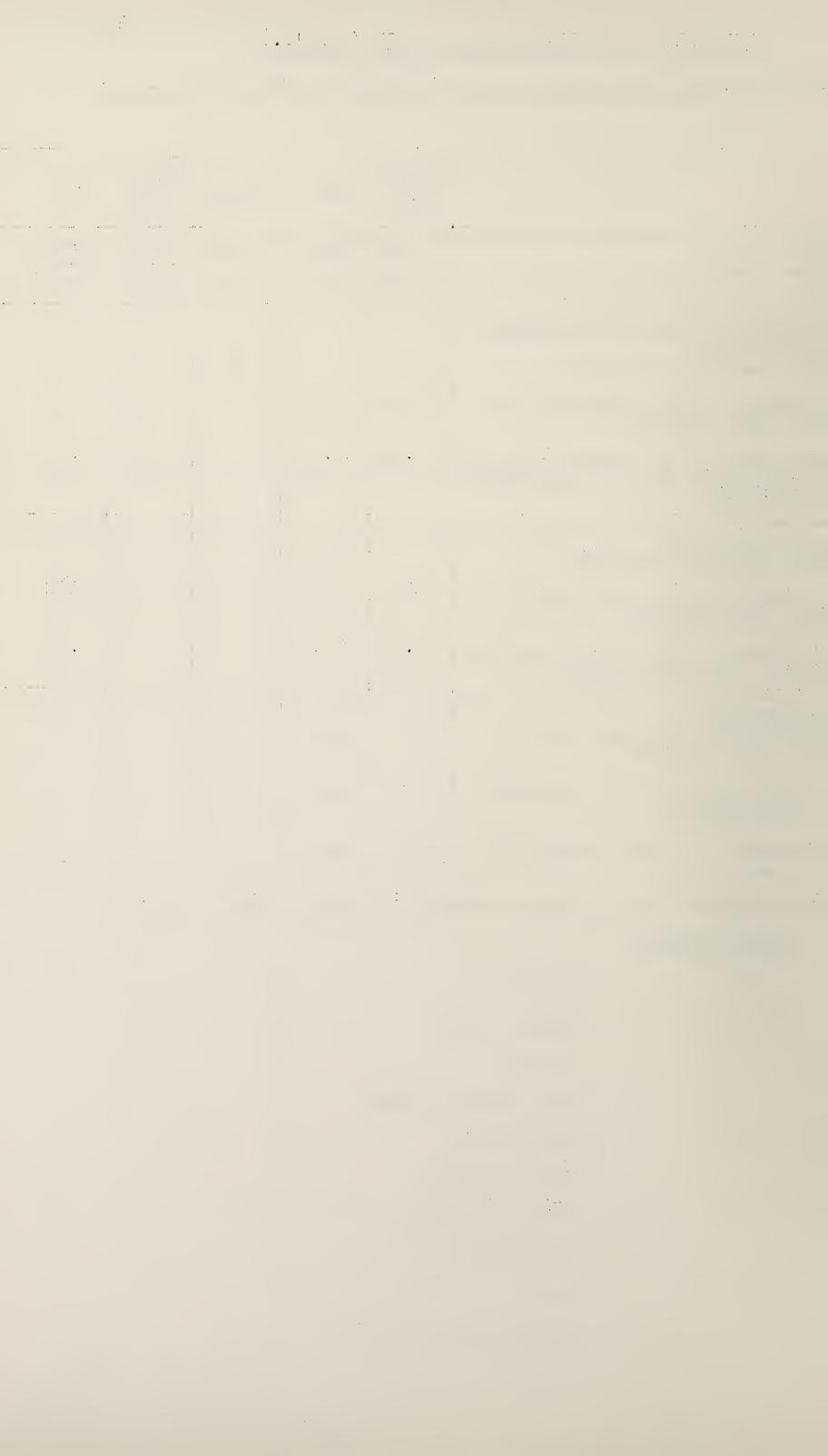
Carcases and offals inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

				i	
	Cattle excl.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Sumber killed	1,732	285	470	5,960	7,253
Jumber inspected	1,732	285	470	5,960	7,253
ll diseases except Tuberculosis ind Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned	2		1	2	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	168	44		35	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	9.8%	15.4%		0.6%	0.6%
uberculosis only Whole carcases condemned		8			5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	109	42			132
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.2%	17.5%			1.9%
ysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil			g.
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	Nil			
Conralised & totally condemned	Nil	Nil			i f
A STATE OF THE STA					

Total weight of meat & offal condemned: 7 tons 7 cwts. 6 lbs.

FOOD PREMISES.

Grocers	6
Greengrocers	3
Butchers	5
Small General Shops	13
Sweetshops	5
Wet Fish Shops	2
Fried Fish Shops	2
Cake Shops	1
Cafes	2
Hotels serving meals to non-residents	5



Food Premises (Cont'd.)

All food premises were inspected during the year, and most of them now comply with the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The five butchers' shops are all registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture and sale of sausages. In addition there is one shop registered under this section for the preparation and sale of chitterlings.

There are 17 shops selling ice cream, all of which are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. All these shops sell a pre-wrapped ice cream, stored at a regular temperature by refrigeration. There was one new registration during the year, and one shop ceased to sell ice cream. There are no premises in the Borough at which ice cream is manufactured.

Milk

There is one milk producer and three milk retailers in the Borough. Two of the dairies are in the Borough, whilst the other is in the adjoining Rural District. The premises of the two local dairymen are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-1954 for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk. There are no pasteurisation plants, and no producers of Tuberculin Tested milk in the Borough.

Bakehouses.

There are no bakehouses in the Borough, and all the bread distributed is baked elsewhere.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption, and surrender notes were issued accordingly. Diseased meat and offal from the slaughterhouse is stained and disposed of for processing, or for consumption at kennels; diseased meat and offal from the Bacon Factory is burnt in the factory boiler, and other condemned foodstuffs are collected and buried at the refuse tip.

Foodstuff	Weight
Tinned meat "fruit "peas "tomatoes "fish Wet fish Lamb Beef	42 lbs 7 " 3 " 4 " 6 " 35 " 119 "

Total weight surrendered: 2 cwts.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse is collected twice weekly and tipped at a site approximately one mile from the centre of the town. Periodic treatment for rats and other pests is regularly carried out.

Salvaged paper and cardboard are collected with the refuse, and a special collection is made twice monthly from business premises. During the year a total of 25 tons 12 cwts. was collected, which realised £140.16. 0.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

No complaints were received during the year from employees regarding working conditions in shops, and from inspections made conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

HOUSING

No houses were erected during the year, but one house in the old Police Station block was modernised and occupied. Work will shortly commence on modernising the other two houses in this block.

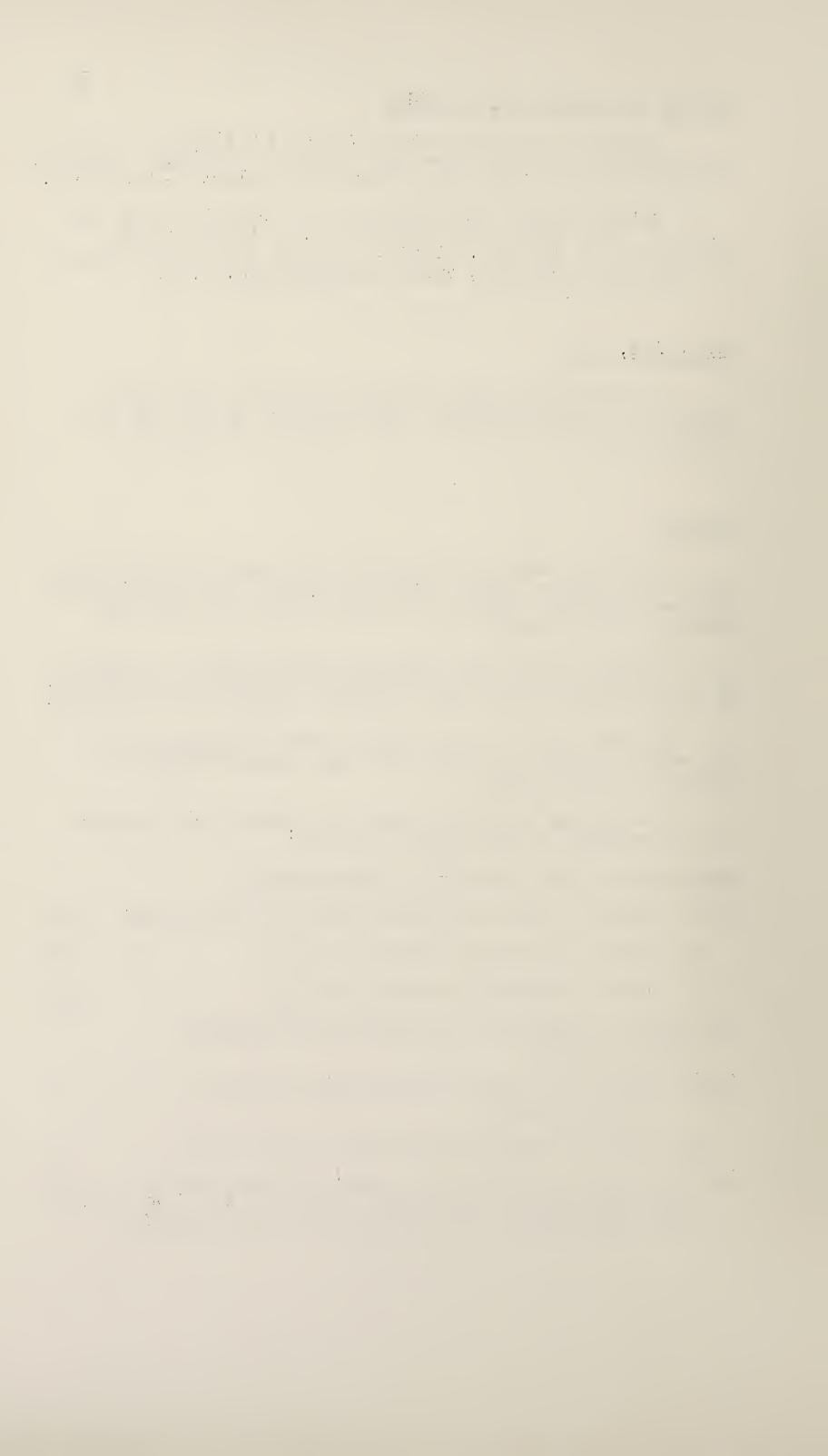
During the year one Closing Order was made in respect of a house which was unfit for human habitation, and notices of time and place have been served in respect of two others.

At the end of the year there were 51 applicants on the waiting list for houses, who were either living or working in the Borough.

The following details show the position with regard to overcrowding at the end of the year:

Housing Act, 1957 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- (a)(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year Nil (2) Number of families dwelling therein Nil (3) Number of persons dwelling therein Nil (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported 1 during the year (c)(l) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases
- (d) Particulars of any case in which dwelling houses Nil have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Visits and Inspections made during 1957

Investigation of complaints	24
Food premises	31
Fish shops	3
Ice cream premises	17
Butchers' shops	5
Restaurants	4
Dairies	
Shops under Shops Acts	11
Infectious disease enquiries	2
Factories	17
Slaughterhouse	339
Bacon Factory	76
Housing Inspections	9
New drainage work	11
Rat infestations	6
Moveable dwellings	2
	566
	-

Statement of nuisances recorded and abated during 1957

Nature of Complaint	No. during year	No. Abated	No o/s
Choked drains Defective drains water closets roofs gutters & rainwater pipe floors walls ceilings stairs Insanitary accumulations Nuisance from animals Miscellaneous	921324311234	9 1 1 4 3 1 2 3 2	2 1 2
	35	30	5

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